

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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15 SEPTEMBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Vietnam

a. The Viet Cong appear to be gearing up to exploit dislocations resulting from the coup attempt.

b. Communist broadcasts yesterday urged their forces to seize the initiative while the "US lackeys are tearing each other to pieces." The call was for stronger attacks in the countryside and intensified agitation in the cities for "democratic rights" and an end to the "US aggressive war."

c. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] IV Corps troops south of Saigon--now returning tired and dispirited from their coup venture--may be vulnerable. Moreover, their commanders' status is uncertain, to say the least.

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d. In Saigon, Khanh is still being buffeted by student groups demanding a purge of the government.

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e. Meanwhile, it looks as if Sihanouk--who has long considered a Viet Cong victory inevitable--is treating the Communist's National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam more and more as a de facto government.

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## 2. Cyprus

a. Tensions on the island have eased slightly.

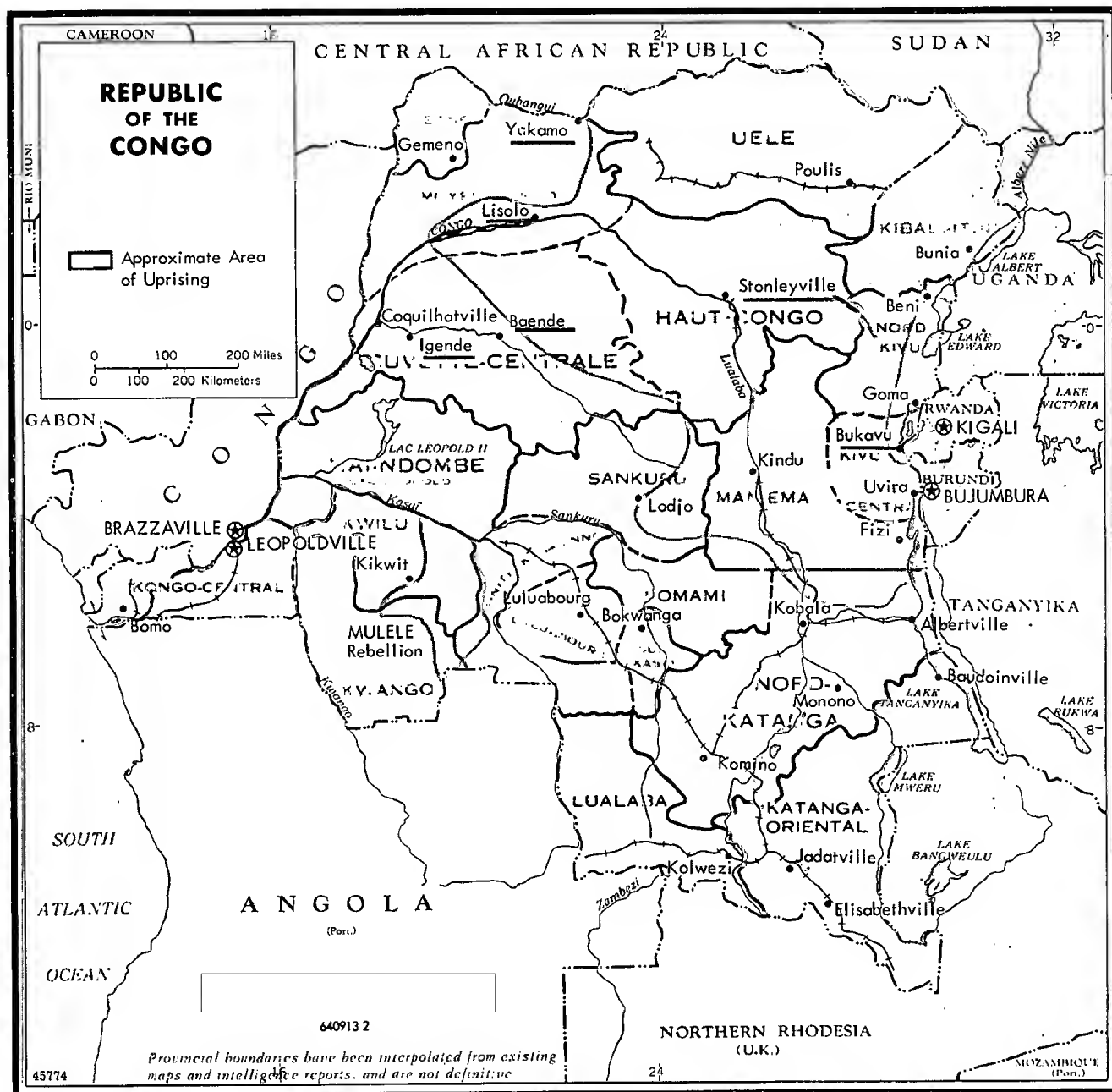
b. Ankara, noting Makarios' agreement to allow food shipments to Cyprus, has announced that one is ready to go. The Turks will insist, however, that the UN, rather than Makarios' government, supervise the unloading.

c. Meanwhile Grivas  plans to dissolve all unauthorized groups of Greek Cypriot irregulars.

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d. As commander of Greek Cypriot forces, he intends to use the new conscription law to seize "illegal" weapons--including those held by several hundred crypto-Communists regarded by Makarios as his personal bodyguard.

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### 3. Congo

a. Government forces continue to hold the initiative in the north.

b. The advance on Coquilhatville has apparently been stopped, and the rebels seem to be in full retreat from Boende,

c. Meanwhile, Kenyatta has scheduled the first meeting of the OAU Congo Conciliation Commission for Friday, in Nairobi. Tshombé has said he will be there.

d. Kenyatta wants to minimize the commission's involvement in the Congolese internal situation, while trying to ease Leopoldville's strained relations with its neighbors. To this end, the foreign ministers from Brazzaville and Burundi have also been invited.

e. Kenyatta envisages a subsequent meeting of "Congolese factions" to help promote "national reconciliation," but will not force the pace on this one despite pressure from the radical members of the commission--Ghana, Guinea, and Egypt.

4. Cuba

a. Wounded crewmen of the Spanish freighter Sierra Aranzazu, abandoned Sunday night after burning off the eastern tip of Cuba, have been taken to Guantanamo.



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5. Western Europe

a. The Common Market countries are discussing whether to hold the line on credits for the Communists.

b. We expect the Executive Commission to urge continuance of the five-year limit, despite London's recent 15-year credit to the USSR, but there is pressure in both West Germany and France in favor of longer term credits.

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c. The French Finance Ministry favors the short term, the Foreign Ministry the long-term credits. Bonn says it will have difficulty in not following Paris in any breach of the five-year limit.

NOTES

A. Indonesia-US Sukarno appears to have made good his promise to tone down anti-American demonstrations. Yesterday strong police guards turned back demonstrators at our Information Centers in Djakarta and Surabaya, and PANAM's flight landed at Djakarta without harassment.

B. Saudi Arabia - Yemen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the Saudis have a lot  
of materiel along the border. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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C. Israel-Syria The Israelis evidently intend to resume cultivation in the disputed area along the Syrian border within the next few days. Local UN officials fear that the Syrians may simply fire at Israeli workers, rather than appealing to the UN machinery. This could provoke "retaliatory action" by Israel.

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E. Cuba-Japan

[redacted] Cuban-Japanese trade for the first six-months of this year has already greatly surpassed the 1963 total. [redacted] exports to Cuba consisted mostly of textiles, food, and construction materials or machines. [redacted]

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F. Yugoslavia-Rumania Tito is encouraging Rumania's opposition to Moscow's proposed 15 December conference of Communist parties. He probably fears the conference would reduce the freedom of maneuver his and other Communist parties now enjoy.

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